(9)

TP Attorney Docket No. 9023-21

<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In recelleva et al.

U.S. Patent No.: 7,037,268

ication Serial No.: 09/914,682

Issued: May 2, 2006

Filed: February 12, 2002

For: Low Pro

Low Profile Acoustic Sensor Array and Sensors with

Pleated Transmission Lines and Related Methods

Date: July 25, 2006

Certificate

Jaic. July 23, 2000

AUG 0 2 2006

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Certificate of Correction Branch

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

of Correction

REQUEST FOR ENTRY OF CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C §254 AND 37 C.F.R. §1.322

Sir:

The Assignee of record for the above-referenced patent hereby requests, pursuant to 35 U.S.C §254 and 37 C.F.R. §1.322, that a Certificate of Correction be issued. This request is made in order to correct the mistakes incurred through the fault of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. No fee is believed due. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

The mistakes appearing in the patent are set forth with corrections on the Certificate of Correction enclosed herewith, with an additional copy thereof and a return post card.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie H. Richardson

Registration No. 40,142

Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.

P. O. Box 37428

Raleigh, North Carolina 27627 Telephone: (919) 854-1400

Facsimile: (919) 854-1401 Customer No. 20792

Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Certificate of Correction Branch, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 25, 2006.

Jessica M. French

AUG 2 2006

PTO/SB/44 (04-04)

Approved for use through 04/30/2007. OMB 0651-0033

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

(Also Form PTO-1050)

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO.

7.037.268

DATED

May 2, 2006

INVENTOR(S)

Sleva et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 6,

Line 8, after "and the third electrical trace of the first pliable" please insert -- material layer provides an electrical ground operably associated with the first and second conductive outer layers of the sensor. In a preferred embodiment, the acoustic sensor transmission line is configured with a series of undulations along its length.

Yet another aspect of the present invention is an acoustic sensor array, comprising a plurality of sensor elements having first and second outer surfaces. The first outer surface is configured to attach to a subject. The sensor array also includes a carrier member release-ably attached to the second outer surface of each of the plurality of sensor elements to hold the plurality of sensors in alignment. In operation, the carrier member is disengaged from the sensor elements after the sensor elements are attached to the subject. In one embodiment, the sensor elements are a set of discrete (structurally separate) sensor elements and the carrier member maintains positional alignment of the sensor elements for easier positioning onto a subject. Advantageously, the carrier member can also be used for other sensor configurations, and is particularly useful for resilient or compact flexural element configurations (such as the strip sensor embodiment described herein).

An additional aspect of the present invention is directed to a method of minimizing the mechanical interference between one or more or adjacent sensors and the end of the transmission line. For example, the method can minimize interference between adjacent sensors and system or environment mechanical forces which potentially can be input to the sensor by mechanically isolating flexure responsive acoustic sensor elements in arrays having a plurality of sensor elements. The method comprises the step of forming a series of undulations in a electrical transmission path to provide mechanical damping therealong. Preferably, the acoustic sensor array includes a plurality of sensor elements and a separate electrical transmission path for each of said sensor elements and the method further comprises the step of forming the sensor array such that the plurality of sensor elements and associated sensor electrical transmission paths are physically separate units.

Another aspect of the present invention is a method of forming an acoustic --

<u>Column 30,</u>

Line 67 should read -- second ends and defining a length therebetween, a --

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER: Myers, Bigel, Sibley & Sajovec P.O. Box 37428 Raleigh, NC 27627 PATENT NO. 7,037,268 No. of additional copies: ____

 \rightarrow

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO.

7.037.268

DATED

May 2, 2006

INVENTOR(S)

Sleva et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 6

Line 8, after "and the third electrical trace of the first pliable" please insert -- material layer provides an electrical ground operably associated with the first and second conductive outer layers of the sensor. In a preferred embodiment, the acoustic sensor transmission line is configured with a series of undulations along its length.

Yet another aspect of the present invention is an acoustic sensor array, comprising a plurality of sensor elements having first and second outer surfaces. The first outer surface is configured to attach to a subject. The sensor array also includes a carrier member release-ably attached to the second outer surface of each of the plurality of sensor elements to hold the plurality of sensors in alignment. In operation, the carrier member is disengaged from the sensor elements after the sensor elements are attached to the subject. In one embodiment, the sensor elements are a set of discrete (structurally separate) sensor elements and the carrier member maintains positional alignment of the sensor elements for easier positioning onto a subject. Advantageously, the carrier member can also be used for other sensor configurations, and is particularly useful for resilient or compact flexural element configurations (such as the strip sensor embodiment described herein).

An additional aspect of the present invention is directed to a method of minimizing the mechanical interference between one or more or adjacent sensors and the end of the transmission line. For example, the method can minimize interference between adjacent sensors and system or environment mechanical forces which potentially can be input to the sensor by mechanically isolating flexure responsive acoustic sensor elements in arrays having a plurality of sensor elements. The method comprises the step of forming a series of undulations in a electrical transmission path to provide mechanical damping therealong. Preferably, the acoustic sensor array includes a plurality of sensor elements and a separate electrical transmission path for each of said sensor elements and the method further comprises the step of forming the sensor array such that the plurality of sensor elements and associated sensor electrical transmission paths are physically separate units.

Another aspect of the present invention is a method of forming an acoustic --

Column 30,

Line 67 should read -- second ends and defining a length therebetween, a --

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER: Myers, Bigel, Sibley & Sajovec P.O. Box 37428 Raleigh, NC 27627 PATENT NO. 7,037,268 No. of additional copies: _____

 \Rightarrow

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

KUG I ROBE